## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT O 01124 121951Z

71 60

**ACTION PM-07** 

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

SS-15 SPC-03 NSC-10 OMB-01 PRS-01 DRC-01 /066 W

---- 074695

R 121926Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO USCOMSOLANT

INFO CINCLANTFLT

CNO

SECSTATE WASHDC 5611

USDAO/CARACAS

CONFIDENTIAL PORT OF SPAIN 1124

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCLR; PFOR; TD SUBJECT: UNITAS XIV

REFS: YOUR 072148Z SEP 73 (NOTAL)

- 1. WE APPRECIATE YOUR FURNISHING ADVANCE OFFICER TO ASSIST WITH UNITAS. PARTICULARLY IN ABSENCE LOCAL NAVY AND RESIDENT ATTACHES, SHEER LOGISTICS OF VISIT OF SIX SHIPS AND OVER 1600 MEN WOULD SUBMERGE THIS SMALL POST WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE.
- 2. WE HAVE NEVER BEEN BROUGHT INTO PLANNING FOR UNITAS XIV, LEARNING ABOUT IT ESSENTIALLY THROUGH REQUESTS FOR SHIP CLEARANCES AND PUBLIC RELATIONS RELEASES AND THUS HAVE SOMEWHAT SKETCHY IDEA OF TOUR AND OF REASON FOR STOP HERE (OTHER THAN PRESUMPTION THAT REFUELING INVOLVED).
- 3. SINCE OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH GOTT ARE CURRENTLY SOMEWHAT STIFF FOLLOWING GOTT CHARGES A YEAR AGO OF "FOREIGN INTERFERENCE", UNITAS VISIT WOULD PERHAPS MOST APPROPRIATELY BE PLAYED IN COMPARATIVELY LOW KEY TO AVOID BIG STICK IMAGE. WE WILL HAVE MORE BACKGROUND AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON THIS LATER ON.

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4. PORT OF SPAIN ITSELF AS AN OLD NAVY TOWN CAN BE COUNTED ON TO BE FRIENDLY IF RATHER BLASE ABOUT VISIT. (SHIPS WILL IN ANY CASE BE BERTHED 7 MILES AWAY AT CHAGUARAMAS, REQUIRING COMPLEX TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENTS INTO TOWN.) WE WILL HAVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE NORMAL RANGE OF IN PORT ACTIVITY YOU CITE, BUT AT BEST WE CAN ONLY SCRATCH SURFACE OF POTENTIAL IN SUCH A LARGE NUMBER OF SHIPS.

 $5.\,\mathrm{I}$  HOPE I CAN COUNT ON SOME MORE BACKGROUND ON UNITAS OPERATION WELL BEFORE ITS ARRIVAL. MARSHALL

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NNN

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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